



STATE OF IOWA

THOMAS J. VILSACK, GOVERNOR
SALLY J. PEDERSON, LT. GOVERNOR

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
TED STILWILL, DIRECTOR

June 8, 2001

TO: K-12, Area Education Agency and Community College Stakeholders

FR: Ted Stilwill

RE: Final Summary of 2001 Legislation

Attached electronically is the Department's Final Summary of 2001 Legislation. The summary will also be placed on our DE web site early next week. While most legislation effecting education was signed several weeks ago, today is officially the final day for Governor Vilsack to act on legislation passed during the recently adjourned regular session. The summary reflects the Governor's action as well as the effective date of the bill. A few bills have more than one effective date.

We are acting quickly on implementation of certain pieces of legislation. This week we hosted 7 regional ICN meetings to inform school superintendents, teachers and school board members of the options available to them next school year for the teacher compensation legislation. We've also started preliminary conversations on the study of community college licensing. I encourage you to check our DE web site frequently throughout the summer for updates and new information.

The 2001 legislation leaves all education stakeholders, state government agencies and those Iowans served with less funding to accomplish a growing list of challenges. This makes strategic planning critical on the state and local level. For example, the cumulative impact of the reduction to the Department's general operation budget is roughly 10%. As an agency, we are planning for how we will meet that budget for the next fiscal year. This means that we are looking at the agency's critical functions to determine how we can continue to meet both our statutory obligations and budgetary restriction. This makes for an interesting summer and may mean that legislation sponsored by this agency will be introduced next year to eliminate certain tasks that we have traditionally performed. I will keep you posted on our work.

If you have questions regarding the summary, please contact me or Ann McCarthy, our legislation liaison. Enjoy your summer.